

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 9, line 21 with the following amended paragraph:

T β 4 isoforms have been identified and have about 70%, or about 75%, or about 80% or more homology to the amino acid sequence of T β 4 set forth in Fig. 10. Such isoforms include, for example, T β 4^{ala}, T β 9, T β 10, T β 11, T β 12, T β 13, T β 14 and T β 15 (Fig. 11; see also, Mihelić et al., (1994) Amino Acids, 6:1-13, which describes the amino acid sequence of other T β 4 isoforms, and is incorporated herein by reference). These sequences are reproduced in Table I below. Similar to T β 4, the T β 10 and T β 15 isoforms have been shown to sequester actin. T β 4, T β 10 and T β 15, as well as these other isoforms share an amino acid sequence, LKKTET (SEQ ID NO: 1), that appears to be involved in mediating actin sequestration or binding. Although not wishing to be bound to any particular theory, the wound healing activity of T β 4 and T β 4 isoforms may be due, in part, to the ability to polymerize actin. For example, T β 4 can modulate actin polymerization in wounds to promote healing (e.g., β -thymosins appear to depolymerize F-actin by sequestering free G-actin). T β 4's ability to modulate actin polymerization may therefore be due to all, or in part, its ability to bind to or sequester actin via the LKKTET (SEQ ID NO: 1) sequence. Thus, as with T β 4, other proteins which bind or sequester actin, or modulate actin polymerization, including T β 4 isoforms having the

amino acid sequence LKKTET (SEQ ID NO: 1), are likely to promote wound healing alone, or in a combination with β 4, as set forth herein.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 10, line 16 with the following amended paragraph:

In addition, other proteins having actin sequestering or binding capability, or that can mobilize actin or modulate actin polymerization, as demonstrated in an appropriate sequestering, binding, mobilization or polymerization assay, or identified by the presence of an amino acid sequence that mediates actin binding, such as LKKTET (SEQ ID NO: 1), for example, can similarly be employed in the methods of the invention. Such proteins include gelsolin, vitamin D binding protein (DBP), profilin, cofilin, depactin, DNasel, vilin, fragmin, severin, capping protein, β -actinin and acumentin, for example. As such methods include those practiced in a subject, the invention further provides pharmaceutical compositions comprising gelsolin, vitamin D binding protein (DBP), profilin, cofilin, depactin, DNasel, vilin, fragmin, severin, capping protein, β -actinin and acumentin as set forth herein. Thus, the invention includes the use of wound healing polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence LKKTET (SEQ ID NO: 1) and conservative variants thereof.